

SECRET

NOTIFICATION OF PROJECT APPROVAL

PROJECT: OBTEST

ACTION

AREA

NEW PROJECT

DIVISION

SI

AMENDMENT NO.

BRANCH

X

RENEWAL (FY 1958)

TERMINATION

DESK

MEMO REQUEST

Albania

AUTHORIZATION

APPROVING AUTHORITY

18 JUL 1957

AMOUNT

FISCAL YEAR

1958

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

Summary request for renewal of Project OBTEST for FY 1958 in the amount of [] subject to availability of funds, has been reviewed by the FP Staff. No further documentation is required.

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

PP/OPS/PP REF. NO.

JUL 4464

SIGNATURE

PP/OPS/PP

DATE

18 JUL 1957

DISTRIBUTION

1	DD/P	1	SSA-DD/S	1	COVERT BUDGET BRANCH	1	AREA DIVISION CHIEF OF ADMIN.	1	PP/OPS/PR	2	PP/OPS/PP
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SECRET

PP STAFF COORDINATION

PROJECT: OB TEST

AMENDMENT NO.

DIVISION

SE

X

RENEWAL

BRANCH

1

TERMINATION

DESK

Albania

STAFF CONCURRENCE

MEMORANDUM ATTACHED

ORGANIZATIONAL ELEMENT	SIGNATURE	COPY NO.	DATE	YES	NO	DATE
Analysis Branch #1	[Signature]	2	16 July 57			
SSA-DD/S		2	18 July			
PP/OPS/PE		3 & 1	17 July 57			
PP/ICD			17 July			
PP/COPS		1				

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

for CPP	SIGNATURE [Signature]	DATE
A/DD/P/P	SIGNATURE [Signature]	DATE

(This space reserved for comments of SSA-DD/S; CPP; A/DD/P/P.)

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Summary Request for Renewal Division Project Clearance Sheet

1. Action: Request for Renewal

a. Project Cryptonym

OBTEST

b. Division

SE

c. Branch

Yugoslavia/Albania

2. Division Concurrences:

CSE/Y-A

3 July 1957
Date

SE/PPP

3 July 1957
Date

SE/B&F

Date

SE/CAL

2/9/57
Date

C/SE

July 10 - 1957
Date

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Project: OBTEST

1. Approvals

Original Approval (as part of BGFIND)	22 June 1949
Original Approval (as separate project)	16 July 1954

2. Funds Used

FY 1955	[]
FY 1956	[]
FY 1957	[]

3. Objectives and Proposal

To maintain and operate clandestine radio facilities for regular broadcasts to Albania to keep alive a spirit of passive resistance to international Communism and hope for eventual freedom, to stimulate popular pressure on the Communist Regime, and to reduce USSR influence over Albania.

4. Accomplishments and Effectiveness

During 1956 the radio, voice of Free Albania, broadcast a 16 minute program four times daily over two different frequencies simultaneously. About three new programs were written every week. Each program was repeated one or more times totaling about 185 hours of broadcasting time per month. With the Polish and Hungarian revolts, special "random" daily broadcasts increased the broadcast time to about 220 hours per month. The themes have become less militant anti-Communist, and the attacks on Communist personalities have given way to reasoned refutation of the failure of Albanian Communism with concrete examples of such failure throughout the world and especially in Albania. The main theme has been the "pressure from below" campaign wherein we try to convince the Albanian people they should use non violent legal and united methods to force concessions from the regime. Monitoring reports indicate the programs are clearly audible in Albania. The refugee evaluations of VOFA have been highly favorable during 1956 and it has been attacked several times recently by the Albanian regime.

A National Communist type radio program "Radio Socialist Albania," has been established aimed at medium and lower level Communist party and government officials. The output purports to come from Socialists and Communists who, disillusioned with the present regime, have fled their homeland. To implement this new radio, additional contract personnel have been acquired.

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5. Plans

Our major psychological effort will go into radio propaganda because of the highly favorable information received from refugees that the number of radios in use and on sale in Albania has increased considerably during the last year. The sunspots will be at an optimum phase during 1957 insuring continued good reception of transmissions into Albania. Further, it is not expected that mass leaflet activity will be possible or desirable in the near future.

The need for adequate support for "Radio Socialist Albania" may mean that VOFA scripts and air time will have to be curtailed somewhat. VOFA will continue to be anti-Communist in nature but at the same time it will give greater emphasis to the line which permits us to notify the Albanian Communists that we are not opposed to their continuance in power provided certain objectionable policies are abolished. The "pressure from below" theme will continue, but emphasis will be on peaceful and evolutionary means of obtaining concessions.

6. Request

It is therefore requested that Project OBTEST be renewed for FY 1958 in the amount of Funds in that amount have been included in the SE Operational Program.

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PROJECT FINANCIAL DATA		PROJECT CRYPTONYM OBTEST			
*MAY NOT EXCEED SECRET CLASSIFICATION		FISCAL PERIOD COVERED			
		1 July 195 7 THRU 30 JUNE 195 8			
RESPONSIBLE STAFF OR DIVISION SE/YA		CASE OFFICER []			
A. PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS					
Indicate number and type of personnel required and estimated total compensation for salary, allowances, travel and related employee benefits. Include everyone paid from project.					
TYPE	NUMBER		ESTIMATED COMPENSATION		
	U. S. PERSONNEL	FOREIGN NATIONAL	BASE SALARY	ALL OTHER	TOTAL
STAFF EMPLOYEES					
STAFF AGENTS					
CAREER AGENTS	1		5440.00	2350.00	7790.00
CONTRACT AGENTS					
CONTRACT CONSULTANTS					
DETAILED PERSONNEL					
FIELD AGENTS		5	11,850.00	2950.00	14,800.00
MILITARY					
ALL OTHER					
TOTAL A.					\$22,590.00
B. SUPPLIES, MATERIEL AND EQUIPMENT					
Indicate amount required in applicable spaces. Attach complete supporting list for each.					
COMMO	CHEMICAL	QUARTERMASTER SUPPLIES		OTHER SUPPLIES	
\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ []	
MEDICAL	ORDNANCE	SPECIAL DEVICES		OTHER EQUIPMENT	
\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ []	
TOTAL B.				[]	
C. OTHER OPERATIONAL EXPENSES					
Indicate volume and nature of expenses such as (1) maintenance of two operational houses abroad (2) spot purchase of information, etc.					
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Travel 2. Safehouse rent and Utilities 3. Misc. Op. <div style="margin-left: 200px;">  <i>att per C/10</i> </div>					
TOTAL C.				[]	
D. SUBSIDY OR PROPRIETARY PAYMENTS					
If funds are to be turned over to individuals or groups in large lump sums to be expended by the individuals or groups at their discretion to accomplish an agreed-upon objective, explain the type of financial accounts, factual verification or statements, if any, other than a receipt for the lump sum, which will be obtained.					
TOTAL D.					
TOTAL FUND REQUIREMENTS (A + B + C + D)				[]	

E. FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

APPROXIMATE DATES AND AMOUNTS OF MONEY REQUIRED

FORM REQUIRED

U. S. DOLLARS

FOREIGN (SPECIFY)

NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS (SPECIFY)

SPECIAL SECURITY REQUIREMENTS OR METHODS OF TRANSMISSION

F. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

(Within security limitations, list any other facts or circumstances which will enable Special Support Staff to lend adequate logistical support to this project. Indicate specifically the "RUSH" or "TIME" factors involved.)